



MFEI Assessment: Overview, Process and Planning

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What Is the MFEI?

- Medicaid Functional Eligibility Instrument (MFEI)
- The MFEI will be used:
 - To see if Kansans qualify for Medicaid Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS)
 - To understand what kinds of Long Term Services and Supports that Kansans need.



Overview of Presentation

- Review process of MFEI development and current status
- Present plans to develop an assessment for people with I/DD
- Questions and discussion

Who Will Use the MFEI?

Medicaid Functional Eligibility Instrument (MFEI)

- Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) staff will use the MFEI to assess people who may need services through:
 - The Frail Elderly (FE) waiver
 - The Physical Disabilities (PD) waiver
 - The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) waiver
 - Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
 - A Nursing Facility (NF)
 - A Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) rehab facility



Who Is Developing the MFEI?

Medicaid Functional Eligibility Instrument (MFEI)

- Researchers from the University of Kansas (KU), led by Rosemary Chapin, PhD
 - The Center for Research on Aging and Disability Options (CRADO) (formerly, the Office of Aging and Long Term Care), in the School of Social Welfare
 - The Research and Training Center on Independent Living (RTC/IL), in the Life Span Institute
 - The University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC)
- The Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS)
- MFEI Advisory Workgroup
- Drawing on suggestions from stakeholders, like you!

MFEI Advisory Workgroup

- Purpose: To advise on development of the MFEI
 - Meets approximately once a month
- Diverse Membership
 - KU, KDADS, LTSS Providers, Advocates
- Initial Work
 - Guiding principles
 - Subcommittees
 - Review of instruments and approaches



Guiding Principles for the MFEI

- See “MFEI Guiding Principles Handout”
- The MFEI will be person centered.
 - It will highlight the needs and strengths of each *unique* individual. It will help support customer *self-determination*.
- The MFEI will be supports based.
 - It will consider a person’s *strengths* and *assets*, and not only their problems.
- The MFEI will be holistic.
 - It will consider a persons needs and strengths in many areas. This includes the *individual*, their *social supports*, and their *environment*.

Choosing the MFEI

- The MFEI team decided it would be best to identify an existing instrument and adapt it for Kansas. We were looking for an instrument that:
 - Performs well across different LTSS populations
 - Has strong reliability, which means it provides consistent results when used by different assessors
 - Has strong validity, which means it provides an accurate measure of the long term services and supports that people need
- KU researched LTSS assessment tools being used across the nation.
 - Conducted a thorough literature review
 - Reviewed federal recommendations
 - Talked to other states and assessment experts

Choosing the MFEI

- We presented top options to stakeholders for their feedback and recommendations
- MFEI Advisory Workgroup
- MFEI Focus Groups
 - Representative rural and urban regions
 - 41 customers and caregivers
 - 38 ADRC assessors and other LTSS providers



Choosing the MFEI

- Top options: interRAI-Home Care (iHC) tool or the Wisconsin Long Term Care Functional Screen (LTCFS)
 - Other options were too long, had unknown validity and reliability, or were not appropriate for all populations
- Final selection: interRAI-Home Care (iHC)
 - Used in over 17 states
 - Strong validity and reliability
 - Can serve many functions
 - Eligibility
 - Care planning
 - Quality Assurance
 - Case-mix/Rate-setting
 - Inform policy decisions



interRAI-Home Care

- Sample Domains:
 - Cognition
 - Communication and Vision
 - Mood and Behavior
 - Psycho-social Well-being
 - Functional Status (ADLs, IADLs, Mobility)
 - Disease Diagnosis; Health Conditions; Treatments and Procedures
 - Social Supports
 - Environmental Assessment
- KU and KDADS are working together to make some adaptations to this tool, including TBI-specific items and employment items
- For more information: <http://www.interrai.org/>

interRAI-HC

- Example: interRAI Social Supports domain
- Current Kansas assessments asks:
 - Informal Support: a) Yes -- there is support; b) Inadequate; c) No -- there is no support
- interRAI asks about:
 - Two key social supports and their relationship to the Medicaid LTSS customer
 - Areas of informal help (i.e., what they help with)
 - How much care they provide
 - Caregiver status: ability to continue help; feelings of stress, anger, depression, or being overwhelmed
 - Whether the relationship is strong and supportive

interRAI-HC

Example: interRAI ADL Self-Performance

- Current Kansas assessments asks about:
 - Bathing
 - Dressing
 - Toileting
 - Transferring
 - Walking, Mobility
 - Eating
- interRAI asks about:
 - Bathing
 - Personal hygiene
 - Dressing upper body
 - Dressing lower body
 - Walking
 - Locomotion
 - Transfer toilet
 - Toilet Use
 - Bed Mobility
 - Eating

MFEI Current Stage

- Adapting the interRAI-Home Care tool for Kansas
 - Drawing on stakeholder feedback and testing results
- Field Testing
 - Trying out the MFEI with real customers and real ADRC assessors
 - Ensuring that eligibility results remain similar when using the new MFEI
 - Revising and retesting as needed
- Next step: Training and phased rollout in 11 ADRC service areas statewide



The I/DD Instrument

- Purpose of the Instrument
 - See if Kansans with I/DD qualify for Medicaid Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS)
 - Understand what kinds of LTSS that Kansans with I/DD need
- Administering the Instrument
 - Community Developmental Disabilities Organizations (CDDOs) will still administer the new or revised I/DD assessment to determine eligibility



The I/DD Instrument Development Process

- In order to develop the instrument we will:
 - Convene a workgroup
 - Conduct focus groups
 - Examine the BASIS instrument
 - Research additional instrument options
 - Gather workgroup, focus group, and stakeholder recommendations and feedback



The I/DD Instrument Development Process (cont'd)

- Report our findings to KDADS
- Conduct field testing on the selected instrument
- Conduct training
- Help implement a phased rollout of the selected instrument



Questions or Comments?

We can also be contacted at
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